GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:198
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2016
National Policy for Development and Promotion of Ancient Heritage
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Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any National Policy for promotion and development of country's historic and religious heritage;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has identified new historical and religious places in the country during the last two years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE, CULTURE AND TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a)&(b) Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is implementing National Conservation Policy for conservation of centrally protected monuments which stresses upon conservation principles, its approach towards executing preservation, restoration and other works, building craftsmanship in conservation, capacity building, etc. Besides this to generate public awareness among the people about the rich cultural heritage of the country, various programmes are conducted by the ASI such as celebration of world heritage day, world heritage week, World Museum day and other awareness programmes wherein school and college students are involved in various activities related to heritage. In addition exhibitions, lectures, workshops, seminars etc. are also conducted for promotion of heritage.

(c)&(d) Village to village survey for new sites is undertaken by the Archaeological Survey of India through its field offices. During 2014-15 and 2015-16, 3886 Villages were surveyed out of which 1547 have revealed remains of archaeological significance.